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Morrison, CO 80465  
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RIDING



HIKING

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## Mount Evans Wilderness Trails

- |                               |                                   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Cub Creek Trail #40        | 11. Resthouse Meadows Trail #57   |
| 2. Indian Creek Trail #41     | 12. Summit Lake Trail #82         |
| 3. Lost Creek Trail #42       | 13. South Chicago Creek Trail #90 |
| 4. Beartrack Lakes Trail #43  | 14. Abyss Trail #602              |
| 5. Beaver Meadows Trail #44   | 15. Rosalie Trail #603            |
| 6. Lincoln Lake Trail #45     | 16. Meridian Trail #604           |
| 7. Captain Mountain Trail #46 | 17. Threemile Trail #635          |
| 8. Chicago Lakes Trail #52    | 18. Tanglewood Trail #636         |
| 9. Hells Hole Trail #53       | 19. Bierstadt Trail #711          |
| 10. Roosevelt Lakes Trail #56 |                                   |

Each Wilderness has its own set of regulations in addition to the following three regulations, established under the Wilderness Act of 1964, which apply to all Wilderness areas.

- Motorized equipment is prohibited, including chain saws, battery powered tools, generators, etc.
- Mechanized transportation is prohibited, including bicycles, hang gliders or carts.
- Aircraft, including helicopters, are prohibited from landing, or dropping off/picking up any materials, supplies or persons.

Additional regulations for each Wilderness on the Pike National Forests can be found by calling the managing District Office.

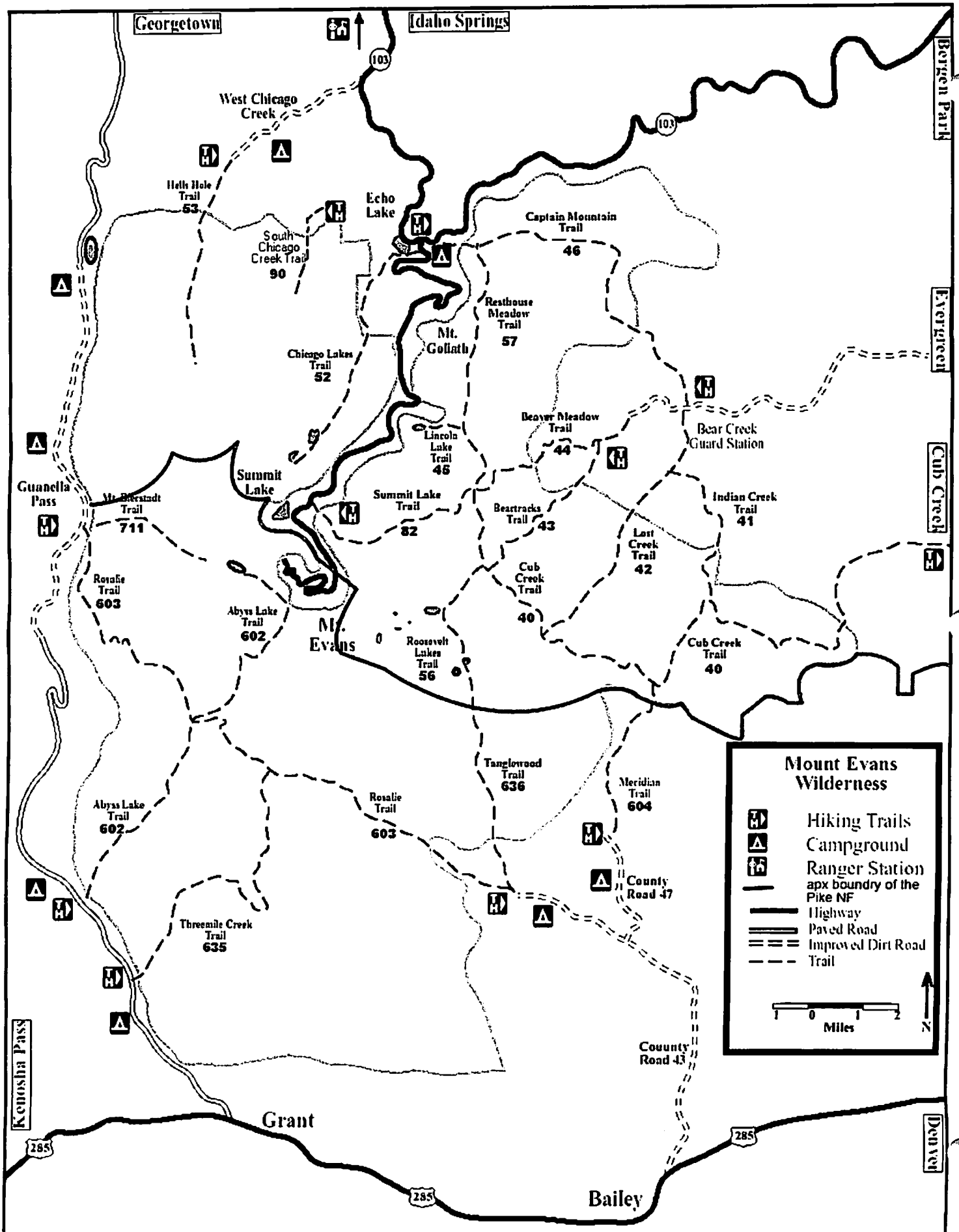
Arapaho National Forest (#1-13)  
Clear Creek Ranger District  
101 Chicago Creek Rd  
PO Box 3307  
Idaho Springs, CO 80452  
303-567-3000

Pike National Forest (#14-19)  
South Platte Ranger District  
19316 Goddard Ranch Ct  
Morrison, CO 80465  
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### Required Registration

Beginning in the spring of 2005, the Forest Service is implementing a mandatory self-issuing permit system in the Mount Evans and Lost Creek Wildernesses to enable us to better manage these heavily visited Wildernesses. The same type of system is already in place in other Wildernesses. The intent is to use the data obtained through this permit system to more accurately assess the amounts and types of existing Wilderness use. This will enable us to better preserve their natural condition for future generations, balanced against the pressures of growing populations and increased use.

These permits have no quotas associated with them nor will there be any fees required to obtain them. They will be available free at each trailhead. As you enter the Wilderness, fill out the provided permit and deposit the white paper copy in the slot in the lower front of the register box. Keep the yellow tag in your possession and please follow the Wilderness regulations found on the back. You are encouraged to contact us with questions and comments at the Ranger District office local to each Wilderness.



**1 - Cub Creek #40**  
Clear Creek Ranger District

(8,360 ft. elevation) - Due to land ownership issues approximately 4½ miles in from the trailhead, access to the Mount Evans Wilderness is no longer possible from this point. This large, rather remote trailhead accesses the east end of the Cub Creek Trail.

From Denver, take I-70 W to Evergreen Parkway exit, go 6 miles S on Hwy 74 to the junction with Hwy 73 in Evergreen, just below the Evergreen Lake Dam. Turn south on Highway 73 and drive almost a mile to Brook Forest Road, then right on Brook Forest Road for approximately 5 miles to Brook Forest. From Brook Forest, continue south on Black Mountain Road almost another mile to the Cub Creek Trailhead.

**2 - No information on Indian Creek Trail #41**  
Clear Creek Ranger District

**3 - Lost Creek/Captain Mountain #3**  
Clear Creek Ranger District

(9,060 ft. elevation) - This trailhead provides access to the Captain Mountain Trail and Lost Creek Trail. The small parking area is located on the north side of the road. From the parking area, the Captain Mountain Trail goes northwest and the Lost Creek Trail goes south from the opposite side of the road.

Note: Access to the trailhead is restricted or closed at certain times of the year. Go to <http://wildlife.state.co.us/swa> and select Mount Evans State Wildlife Area under SWA Name for closure dates, restrictions and other information.

From Denver, take I-70 west to Evergreen Parkway exit, go 6 miles south on Hwy 74 to Evergreen Lake, and turn right on Upper Bear Creek Rd. Go 6.5 miles west on Upper Bear Creek Rd. to Cty Rd 480, then right on Cty. Rd. 480 3 miles to the Mount Evans State Wildlife Area. From the entrance, continue 2.6 miles to the Lost Creek/Captain Mountain Trailhead.

**4 - Beartracks Lake Trail #43**  
Clear Creek Ranger District

Activities: hiking

Length: 4.5 miles one way

Elevation: Trailhead: 9,100' Destination: 11,150'

Rating: More difficult

Trailhead Location: From Evergreen, take Upper Bear Creek Road for about 10 miles to the Mount Evans State Wildlife Area.

Camp Rock (9,050 ft. elevation) - This trailhead, located in the Camp Rock Campground, provides access to the Beartrack Lakes Trail and Beaver Meadows Trail. Note: Access to the trailhead is restricted or closed at certain times of the year.

From Denver, take I-70 west to Evergreen Parkway exit, go 6 miles south on Hwy 74 to Evergreen Lake, and turn right on Upper Bear Creek Rd. Go 6.5 miles west on Upper Bear Creek Rd. to Cty. Rd. 480, then right on Cty. Rd. 480 3 miles to the Mount Evans State Wildlife Area. From the entrance, continue 4.6 miles to the Camp Rock Campground. The Beartrack Lakes Trail leaves the east end of the parking area and the Beaver Meadows Trail leaves the west end.

Trail Information:

Beginning at the Camp Rock Campground, the trail travels through a forested environment along a creek for about a mile, gradually climbing upwards. It then opens to a wildfire burn area. In 1998, about 485 acres burned in the Beartracks Fire. This fire is believed to have been started by a careless hiker. As you climb uphill and walk through some more woods, the trail opens again to another wildfire burned area. This is the Resthouse Meadow Fire that burned 1,076 acres in 1964. The Resthouse Meadow Fire is also believed to have been caused by humans. However, there is beauty to be found in this destruction. Wildflowers offer a brilliant contrast to the charred trees left standing. Revisit this area in a year or more and observe the rebuilding of Mother Nature. Darting back into the woods again, the trail takes you to Beartracks Lake, which is nestled next to a rock cliff.

## **5 - Beaver Meadows Trail #44**

Clear Creek Ranger District

Activities: hiking

Length: 3 miles one way

Elevation: Trailhead: 9,100' Destination: 10,500'

Season of Use: Closed to vehicles the first day of hunting season to June 15.

Closed to all traffic January 1 to June 15.

Rating: More difficult

Trailhead Location:

- From Evergreen, take the Upper Bear Creek Road for 10 miles to the Mount Evans State Wildlife Management Area.
- Travel another five miles to the Camp Rock State Campground (9,050 ft. elevation) - This trailhead, located in the Camp Rock Campground, provides access to the Beartrack Lakes Trail and Beaver Meadows Trail. Note: Access to the trailhead is restricted or closed at certain times of the year.
- From Denver, take I-70 west to Evergreen Parkway exit, go 6 miles south on Hwy 74 to Evergreen Lake, and turn right on Upper Bear Creek Rd. Go 6.5 miles west on Upper Bear Creek Rd. to Cty. Rd. 480, then right on Cty. Rd. 480 3 miles to the Mount Evans State Wildlife Area. From the entrance, continue 4.6 miles to the Camp Rock Campground. The Beartrack Lakes Trail leaves the east end of the parking area and the Beaver Meadows Trail leaves the west end.

Trail Information:

Within a mile of the trailhead, a scenic meadow takes form with beaver ponds dotting the area. Climbing slowly, you dart into the trees before coming upon another meadow. This is where the Resthouse Meadows Fire burned 1,076 acres in 1964. The Resthouse Meadows Fire is believed to have been caused by humans.



## **6 - No Information on Lincoln Lake Trail #45**

Clear Creek Ranger District

## **7 - Captain Mountain Trail #46**

Clear Creek Ranger District

Activities: hiking and camping

Length: 7 miles one way

Elevation: Trailhead: 9,050' Destination: 10,600'

Rating: More difficult

Trailhead Location:

- From Evergreen, take the Upper Bear Creek Road for 10 miles to the Mount Evans State Wildlife Area.
- Continue another three miles to the Bear Creek Guard Station where the trailhead will be on the right.
- The Echo Lake Trailhead (10,640 ft. elevation) provides access to the Chicago Lakes Trail, Resthouse Meadows Trail, and Captain Mountain Trail. The Chicago Lakes and Resthouse Trails begin at a small parking area just before the entrance to the Echo Lake Campground. To reach the Captain Mountain Trail, hike from the parking area east along the road into the campground to the east end of the campground, where the trail begins.
- Drive approximately 15 miles south of Idaho Springs on Highway 103 to its junction at Echo Lake with Highway 5, the Mount Evans Road. Turn right briefly on Highway 5, then left just before the Mount Evans entrance. The parking area is just down the road toward the entrance to the Echo Lake Campground on the left side of the road. at the Hwy 103 / Hwy 5 junction.

Trail Information:

From the Bear Creek Guard Station, the trail gradually climbs through lodgepole pine and aspen forest. It skirts the bottom of the 9,869 foot Captain Mountain before meandering through meadows. The end is a steady climb through thick spruce and fir woods, up the canyon of Beavercreek, and finally to the Echo Lake Campground.

**8 - Chicago Lakes Trail #52**  
**Clear Creek Ranger District**

Activities: hiking

Length: 4 miles one way

Elevation: Trailhead: 10,600' Destination: 11,800'

Rating: More difficult

Trailhead Location:

- At the junction of Hwy 103 and 5, the trail starts behind the Echo Lake Lodge.
- There are several social trails in the area, simply choose the one that heads southwest.
- This trail can also be easily accessed by the Denver Mountain Parks picnic area and scenic path around Echo Lake.
- Echo Lake (10,640 ft. elevation) - The Echo Lake Trailhead provides access to the Chicago Lakes Trail, Resthouse Meadows Trail, and Captain Mountain Trail. The Chicago Lakes and Resthouse Trails begin at a small parking area just before the entrance to the Echo Lake Campground. To reach the Captain Mountain Trail, hike from the parking area east along the road into the campground to the east end of the campground, where the trail begins.
- Drive approximately 15 miles south of Idaho Springs on Highway 103 to its junction at Echo Lake with Highway 5, the Mount Evans Road. Turn right briefly on Highway 5, then left just before the Mount Evans entrance. The parking area is just down the road toward the entrance to the Echo Lake Campground on the left side of the road.

Trail Information:

Leaving Echo Lake, the trail goes downhill for the first mile. Here Chicago Creek is dammed to form the Idaho Springs Reservoir. This will be the easy part of the hike for the trail then climbs upward the remaining three miles. You will pass through an old burn area where in 1978, 400 acres burned in the Reservoir Fire. Abundant wildflowers stand out against the burned trees. Darting back into the trees, the first Chicago Lake sits at treeline. The trail to the second lake, above treeline, is difficult to follow at times and is very steep. Both lakes offer excellent views of surrounding peaks.

\*Be aware of quickly advancing summer lightning storms.

**9 - Hells Hole Trail #53**  
**Clear Creek Ranger District**

(9,640 ft. elevation) - Located just beyond the West Chicago Creek Campground, this trailhead provides access to the Chicago Creek Picnic Ground and the Hells Hole Trail.

Drive 6.5 miles south of Idaho Springs on Highway 103 to the West Chicago Creek Road. Turn right on the West Chicago Creek Road for another 3 miles. The trailhead starts where the road ends. Walk right through the Chicago Creek Picnic Area.

**10 - No Information on Roosevelt Lakes Trail #56**  
**Clear Creek Ranger District**



**11 - Resthouse Meadow Trail #57**  
Clear Creek Ranger District

Activities: hiking and camping

Length: 5 miles one way

Elevation: Trailhead: 10,600' Destination: 10,400'

Rating: More difficult

Trailhead Location:

- At the junction of Hwy 103 and Hwy 5, the trailhead starts in the Echo Lake Campground. The trailhead (10,640 ft. elevation) provides access to the Chicago Lakes Trail, Resthouse Meadows Trail, and Captain Mountain Trail. The Chicago Lakes and Resthouse Trails begin at a small parking area just before the entrance to the Echo Lake Campground. To reach the Captain Mountain Trail, hike from the parking area east along the road into the campground to the east end of the campground, where the trail begins.
- Drive approximately 15 miles south of Idaho Springs on Highway 103 to its junction at Echo Lake with Highway 5, the Mount Evans Road. Turn right briefly on Highway 5, then left just before the Mount Evans entrance. The parking area is just down the road toward the entrance to the Echo Lake Campground on the left side of the road. near the restrooms.

Trail Information:

The first mile climbs gradually through the trees then it seems to level out for about three miles. Once you cross Vance Creek, it begins to climb slowly once again. The forest opens up to a meadow where 700 acres of forest burned in the 1962 Lincoln Lake Fire. Elk graze in this newly developed meadow. The last mile drops steeply and may be a little rocky.

**12 - Summit Lake #82**  
Clear Creek Ranger District

(12,850 ft. elevation) - This trailhead on the Mount Evans road provides access to the little-used Summit Lake Trail. Parking is in the Summit Lake parking lot.

Drive approximately 15 miles south of Idaho Springs on Highway 103 to its junction at Echo Lake with Highway 5, the Mount Evans Road. Turn right briefly on Highway 5, continue through the fee station and up the road 9 miles to the Summit Lake parking lot. To reach the trail, hike east a short distance along the Mount Evans road from the parking lot to a sign marking the start of the trail.

**13 - South Chicago Creek #90**  
Clear Creek Ranger District

(9,920 ft. elevation) - This little-used trailhead provides access to the South Chicago Creek Trail.

Drive almost 9 miles south of Idaho Springs on Highway 103 to the Hefferman Gulch Road (FDR 247). Go right on FDR 247 1.25 mile, crossing from the east side of the creek to the west side about halfway up, then back to the east side just before the trailhead.



**14 - Abyss Lake Trail #602**  
**South Platte Ranger District**

<b>Difficulty:</b>	Difficult
<b>Trail Use:</b>	Moderate to high on early portion of trail, low at higher elevations
<b>Length, One-way:</b>	8.8 Miles (14.1 Kilometers)
<b>Elevation:</b>	Abyss Trailhead at 9,620 Feet (2932 Meters) and ends at Abyss Lake at 12,650 Feet (3856 Meters)
<b>Elevation Gain/Loss:</b>	+3,030 Feet (924 Meters)
<b>Open to:</b>	Hiking, Horseback Riding, Cross-Country Skiing, Snowshoeing
<b>Handicapped Accessible:</b>	no
<b>Recommended Season:</b>	summer-early fall
<b>USGS Quads:</b>	Mt. Evans
<b>Other Maps:</b>	Pike National Forest

**Access:**

Drive southwest from Denver on US 285 approximately 40 miles to Grant. Turn right (north) onto Park County 62 (towards Guanella Pass), and drive 5.5 miles to the trailhead. The trailhead is on the east (right) side of the road and is located just south of Burning Bear Campground. There is a large parking area at the trailhead.

**Connecting Trails:** 15 -Rosalie

**Attractions and Considerations:**

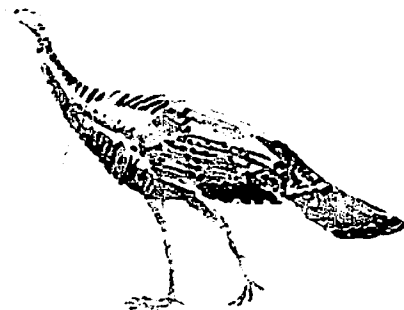
The Abyss Lake Trail is a popular hiking trail, which terminates at Abyss Lake. The lake is nestled in a high glacial cirque between Mt. Bierstadt and Mt. Evans. The rocky slopes surrounding the lake are home to bighorn sheep and mountain goats.

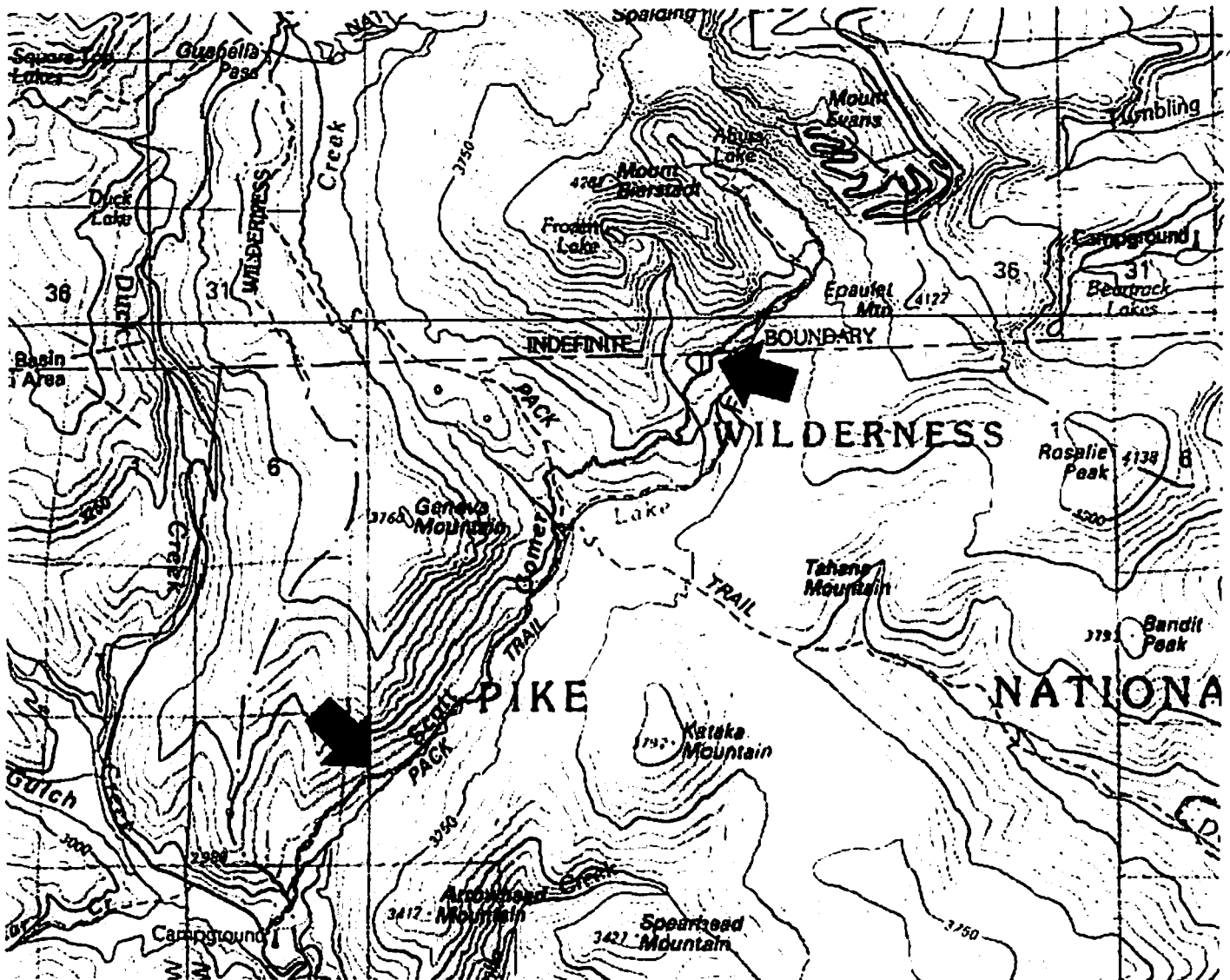
The elevation gain, together with the round trip distance of 18 miles makes this a strenuous day hike. The lower portion of the trail is sometimes incorrectly referred to as the "Scott Gomer Trail" because of its location along Scott Gomer Creek. This trail, in combination with the Threemile and Rosalie Trails, offers some interesting extended hikes through other portions of the Mt. Evans Wilderness. You should be alert to the possible development of summer afternoon storms with their accompanying lightening, particularly above treeline. Because the trail is almost entirely in designated wilderness, Wilderness regulations apply.

**Narrative:**

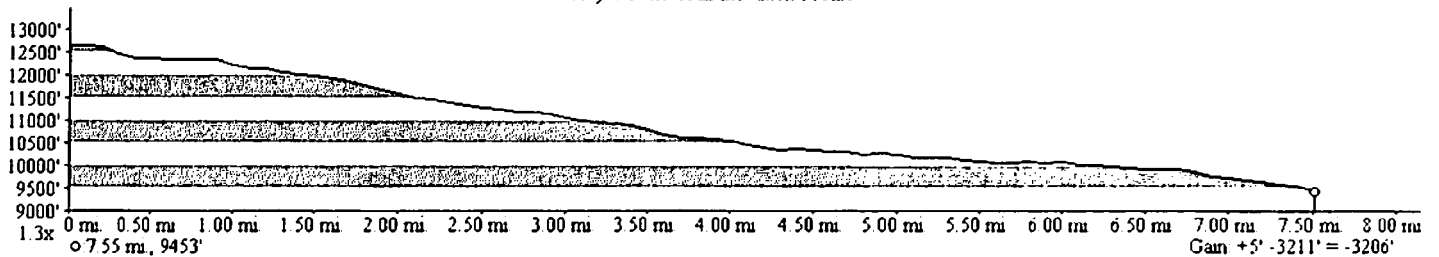
The first half of the trail heads in a northeasterly direction up the Scott Gomer Creek drainage. Shortly after the first crossing of the Scott Gomer Creek, Mt. Bierstadt will come into view ahead and on your left. After the third crossing of Scott Gomer Creek you will reach a trail junction with the Rosalie Trail. Here the Abyss Lake Trail joins the Rosalie Trail and turns to the northwest. For the next short distance you will be on both the Abyss Lake and Rosalie Trails. Note that from here on this portion of the trail is not located as it appears on the "Photo-revised 1974" copy of the Mt. Evans quad map. At the next junction, the Rosalie Trail continues up to Guanella Pass, and the Abyss Lake Trail bears right across several small streams, then begins a series of fairly steep switchbacks, bearing again in a northeasterly direction. The trail leaves the trees and enters thick willows just to the southwest of the small lake labeled as "11730" on the quad map.

After leaving the lake, you will continue up the valley through the willows until you cross the Lake Fork stream draining out of Abyss Lake. From this point the trail begins to head in a more westerly direction across the tundra. The remnants of an airplane crash were visible for many years along this portion of the trail, until they were hauled out by packstring in late 1996. The trail terminates at Abyss Lake.





Abyss Lake Trail Elevation Profile



This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The Pike National Forest strongly suggests purchasing a topographic trail map and compass prior to beginning a hiking trip.



## **15 - Rosalie Trail #603**

### **South Platte Ranger District**

Beginning Elevation:	11,669 Feet (3557 Meters) Guanella Pass Trailhead
High Point:	11,800 Feet (3598 Meters)
Ending Elevation:	9,280 Feet (2830 Meters) Deer Creek Trailhead
Elevation Gain/Loss:	2,520 Feet (768 Meters)
Difficulty:	difficult
Handicapped Accessible:	no
Length, One-way:	13.4 Miles (21.5 Kilometers)
Recommended Season:	summer-early fall
USGS Quads:	Mt. Evans, Harris Park
Other Maps:	Pike National Forest
Usage Level:	moderate

#### **Access:**

1) Guanella Pass Trailhead: Drive west from Denver on US 285 approximately 40 miles to Grant. Turn right (north) on to Park County 62. Drive 13.5 miles to Guanella Pass. Alternatively, drive west from Denver on Interstate 70. Exit at Georgetown and follow the signs leading from Georgetown to Guanella Pass.

2) Deer Creek Trailhead: Drive west from Denver on US 285 approximately 28 miles to the traffic light before the top of Crow Hill. Turn right (northwest) on to Park County 43 and drive in a northwesterly direction for 6.8 miles to a "Y" in the road. Bear left and drive 2.1 miles, staying right at the campground, to the parking area at the trailhead.

#### **Connecting Trails:**

- 1) Abyss Lake Trail
- 2) Threemile Trail
- 3) Tanglewood Trail

#### **Attractions and Considerations:**

The Rosalie Trail is a popular trail extending from Guanella Pass to the southeast edge of the Mt. Evans Wilderness. It offers a variety of scenery, including spectacular views of Mt. Bierstadt and the glacial cirque on the south side of Mt. Evans. The trail intersects the Abyss Lake, Threemile, and Tanglewood Trails, thus offering interesting extended hikes. Several stretches of the trail are above treeline. You should be alert to the possible development of summer afternoon storms with their accompanying lightening, particularly above treeline.

The trail is rated as difficult primarily due to its length and the elevation gains in traversing its entire length. There is a parking lot at each trailhead. In addition, the Deer Creek Trailhead provides a corral for horses, but camping at this trailhead is prohibited. Because the trail is almost entirely in designated wilderness, Wilderness regulations apply.

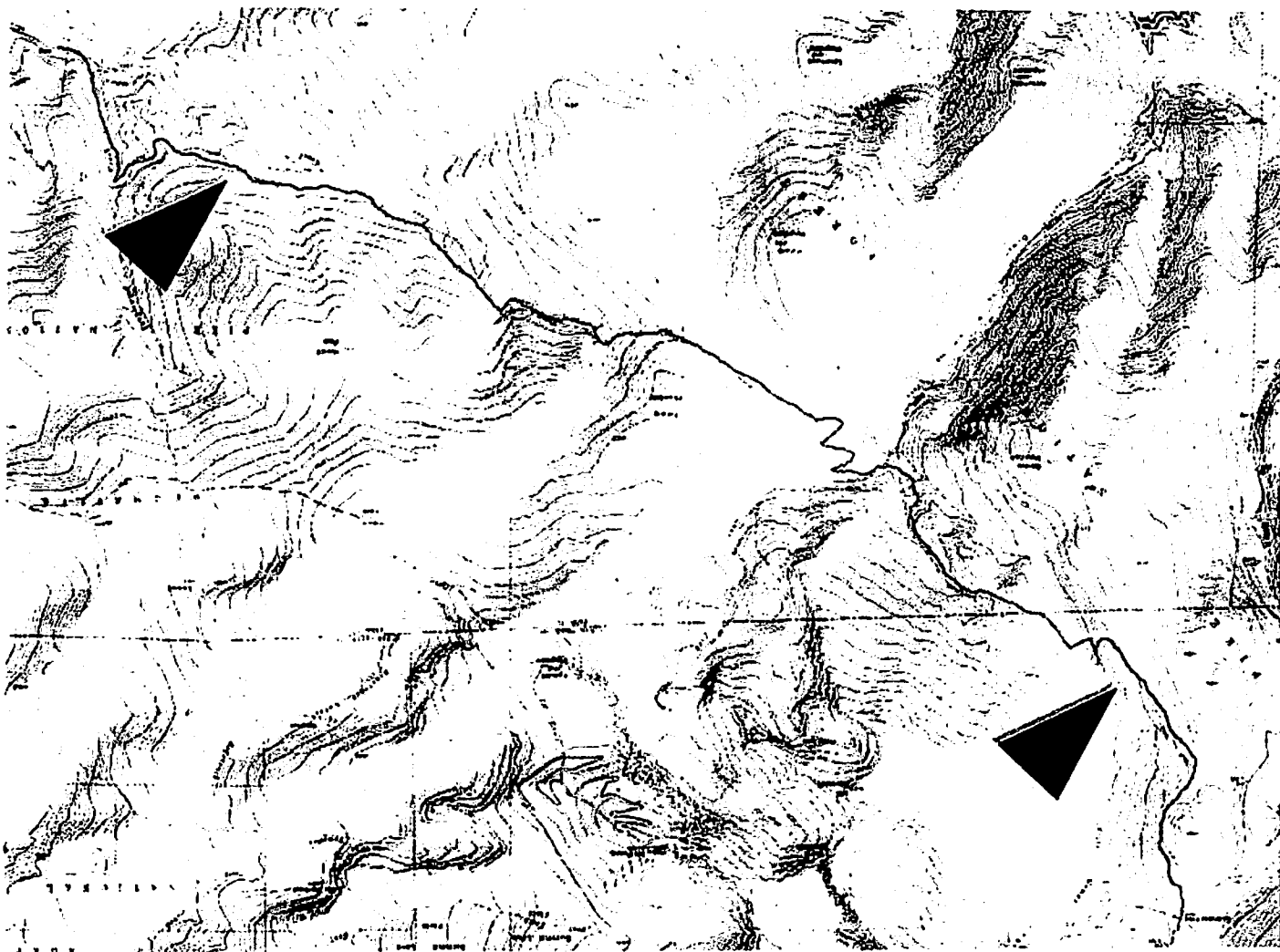
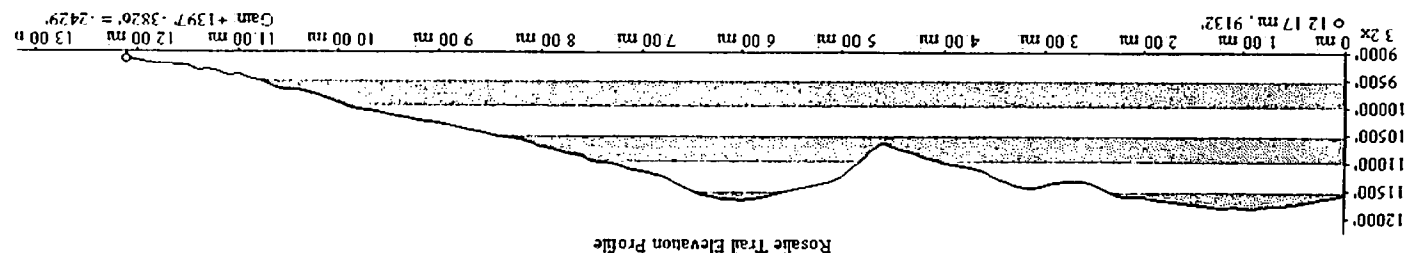
#### **Narrative:**

This description of the trail begins at Guanella Pass and ends at the lower terminus near Deer Creek Campground. From Guanella Pass, take the trail leading south out of the parking area. Halfway up the hill, the trail veers east and south as it contours around the hill. Further south, it rejoins the ridge, and then gradually descends to the southeast, following a series of marker posts through the willows. Shortly after reaching the trees, the trail crosses Scott Gomer Creek and continues southeast to a low saddle before dropping down into an unmarked drainage east of Scott Gomer Creek. Farther down, the trail joins the Abyss Lake Trail. Continuing down the valley, you will soon reach another intersection. Here the Abyss Lake Trail goes to the right down the valley to the Abyss Trailhead, and the Rosalie continues southeast towards Deer Creek.

The next stretch of the trail is steep in places as it climbs up a glacial moraine through an old burn. This section of the trail has some spectacular views of Mt. Bierstadt and the sheer south flank of Mt. Evans. As the trail again begins to descend, you will reach the upper end of the Threemile Trail, just east of the pass. The Threemile Trail goes south, then down to Threemile Creek, and the Rosalie Trail continues in a southeasterly direction descending the Deer Creek drainage. Near the Wilderness boundary, the trail rises to the north away from the creek and eventually follows an old logging road to an intersection with the Tanglewood Trail. From this intersection, the Tanglewood Trail goes north up Tanglewood Creek and on to join the Roosevelt Lakes Trail. The Rosalie Trail turns south and goes downstream to the Deer Creek Trailhead.



This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The Pike National Forest strongly suggests purchasing a topographic trail map and compass prior to beginning a hiking trip.



**16 - Meridian Trail #604**  
**South Platte Ranger District**

Beginning Elevation:	9,070 Feet (2765 Meters) Meridian Trailhead
High Point:	10,720 Feet (3270 Meters)
Ending Elevation:	10,720 Feet (3270 Meters) Cub Creek Trail junction
Elevation Gain/Loss:	1,650 Feet (500 Meters)
Difficulty:	easy
Handicapped Accessible:	no
Length, One-way:	3.3 Miles (5.2 Kilometers)
Recommended Season:	late spring-fall
USGS Quads:	Harris Park
Other Maps:	Pike National Forest
Usage Level:	moderate

**Access:**

Drive west from Denver on US 285 approximately 28 miles to the traffic light before the top of Crow Hill. Turn right (northwest) on to Park County 43 and drive in a northwesterly direction for 6.8 miles to a "Y" in the road. Bear right. Go 1.5 miles, passing Meridian Campground on the left. Take the next left and turn left on Prospector Way. Go .8 miles past Camp Rosalie to the trailhead. The last mile is rough and can be muddy.

**Connecting Trails:**

1) Cub Creek Trail

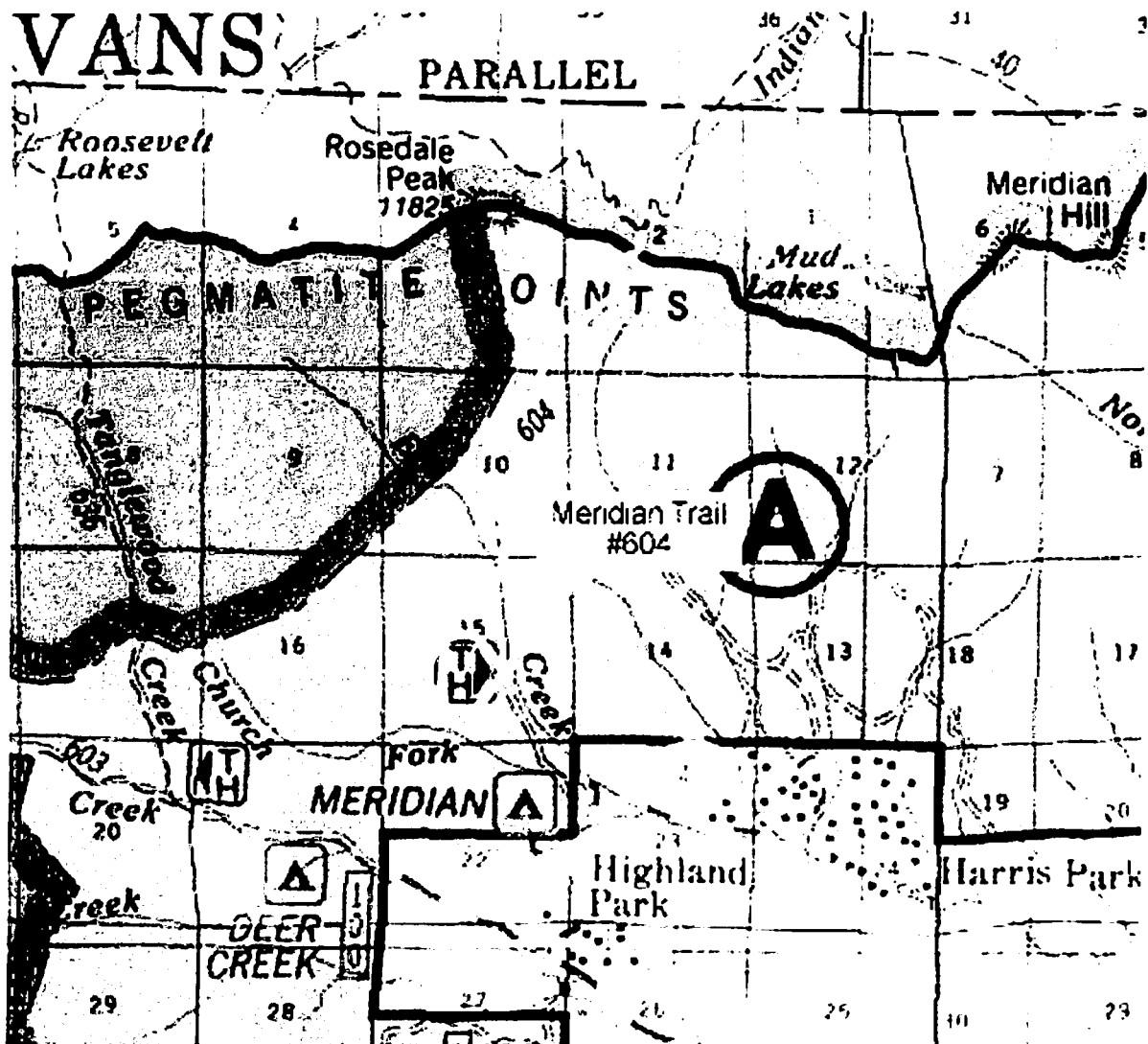
**Attractions and Considerations:**

This pleasant hike leads to a saddle, which marks the boundary between Pike and Arapahoe National Forests, as well as the boundary of the Mount Evans Wilderness. The trail remains below treeline the entire distance, and it is well maintained and easy to follow. There are possible sites for overnight camping at the saddle, however water is not available in the immediate area so campers will need to supply their own. Southerly exposure makes this a good early or late season hike, and fall colors can be beautiful along this trail. The trail is almost entirely outside of the Mount Evans Wilderness, but does enter the Wilderness at the top and Wilderness regulations apply.

**Narrative:**

The trail leads north as it rises out of the Elk Creek drainage, then begins to bear in a northeasterly direction. This portion of the trail passes through several aspen groves, and offers some interesting vistas looking east and south. The saddle is marked by Wilderness boundary signs. Just beyond the saddle, the trail ends at its intersection with the Cub Creek Trail. Note that the revised 1974 quad map has the designation "Meridian Campground" at the saddle. This is not a designated Forest Service campground, and there are no water or sanitary facilities at the saddle. (The developed Meridian Campground is south of the Meridian Trailhead.)





*This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The Pike National Forest strongly suggests purchasing a topographic trail map and compass prior to beginning a hiking trip.*

## **17 - Threemile Trail #635**

### **South Platte Ranger District**

Beginning Elevation:	8,960 Feet (2730 Meters) Threemile Trailhead
High Point:	11,880 Feet (3620 Meters)
Ending Elevation:	11,560 Feet (3520 Meters) Rosalie Trail junction
Elevation Gain/Loss:	2,920 Feet (890 Meters)
Difficulty:	moderate
Handicapped Accessible:	no
Length, One-way:	6.6 Miles (10.7 Kilometers)
Recommended Season:	summer-early fall
USGS Quads:	Mt. Evans, Mount Logan
Other Maps:	Pike National Forest
Usage Level:	moderate

#### **Access:**

Drive southwest from Denver on US 285 approximately 40 miles to Grant. Turn right (north) onto Park County 62 (towards Guanella Pass), and drive 2.8 miles to the trailhead on the right (east) side of the road. There is a limited amount of parking at the trailhead.

#### **Connecting Trails:**

1) Rosalie Trail

#### **Attractions and Considerations:**

This popular hiking trail provides access into the heart of the southern half of the Mt. Evans Wilderness. Note that the trail is not shown on the Mt. Evans quad. The hike is rated as moderately difficult due to its length and elevation gain. It offers spectacular high mountain scenery and vistas. You should be alert to the possible development of summer afternoon storms with their accompanying lightening, particularly above treeline. Because the trail is almost entirely in designated wilderness, Wilderness regulations apply.

#### **Narrative:**

The first part of the trail follows Threemile Creek in a northeasterly direction. The stream and trail are in a narrow canyon with a number of stream crossings. As the trail swings more toward the east, it gradually begins to open up into a meadow. From a point east of Spearhead Mountain, the trail begins to rise steeply away from the creek in a series of switchbacks. As you ascend these switchbacks, look behind you from time to time for dramatic views to the southwest of Kenosha Pass, South Park and the mountains west and south of Fairplay. At the top of the switchbacks the trail begins heading north. You will still be in trees and gaining elevation, but at a much lower rate than the steep switchbacks. Shortly, you will emerge from the trees into open tundra. Kalaka Mountain will be on your left (west) and Mt Evans and Mt Bierstadt will be ahead of you and slightly to the left (north/northwest). Continuing north, the trail descends to meet the Rosalie Trail.





## **18 - Tanglewood Trail #636**

### **South Platte Ranger District**

Beginning Elevation:	9,280 Feet (2830 Meters) Deer Creek Trailhead
High Point:	11,960 Feet (3545 Meters)
Ending Elevation:	11,960 Feet (3545 Meters) boundary with Arapaho NF
Elevation Gain/Loss:	2,680 Feet (815 Meters)
Difficulty:	moderate
Handicapped Accessible:	no
Length, One-way:	3.7 Miles (5.9 Kilometers)
Recommended Season:	summer-early fall
USGS Quads:	Harris Park
Other Maps:	Pike National Forest
Usage Level:	moderate

#### **Access:**

Drive west from Denver on US 285 approximately 28 miles to the traffic light before the top of Crow Hill. Turn right (northwest) on to Park County 43 and drive in a northwesterly direction for 6.8 miles to a "Y" in the road. Bear left and drive 2.1 miles, staying right at the campground, to the parking area at the trailhead.

#### **Connecting Trails:**

- 1) Rosalie Trail
- 2) Roosevelt Lakes Trail

#### **Attractions and Considerations:**

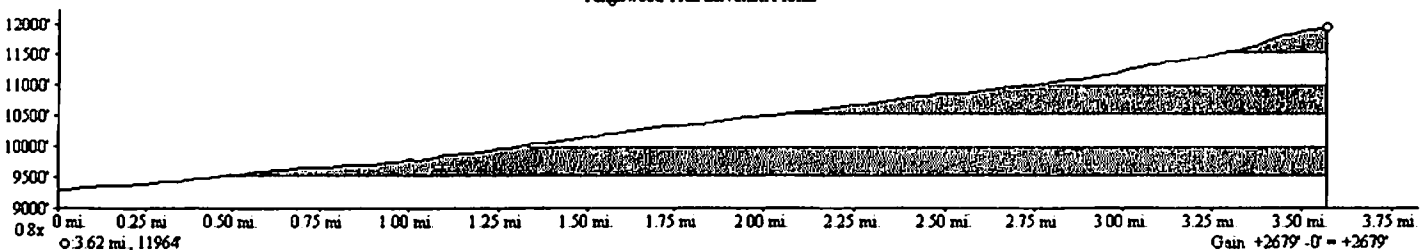
The Tanglewood Trail begins in the southeast corner of the Mt. Evans Wilderness and climbs north into a saddle on the boundary between the Pike and Arapaho National Forests. From that point the trail continues north as the Roosevelt Lakes Trail and eventually ties into the trails on the east side of the Wilderness. Immediately east of the saddle (towards Rosedale Peak) are a series of pointed rock outcroppings called "Pegmatite Points". The upper portions of the trail are above treeline. The parking area at the trailhead has room for unloading horses as well as some corral facilities. Overnight camping is not permitted at the trailhead. This location is also the trailhead for the southeast (lower) terminus of the Rosalie Trail. You should be alert to the possible development of summer afternoon storms with their accompanying lightening, particularly above treeline. Because the trail is almost entirely in designated wilderness, Wilderness regulations apply.

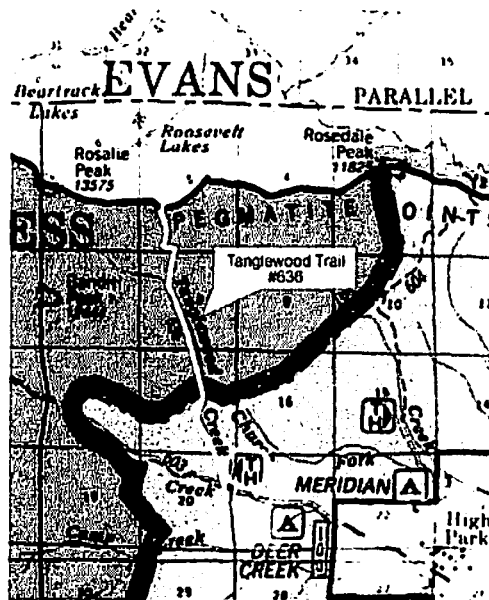
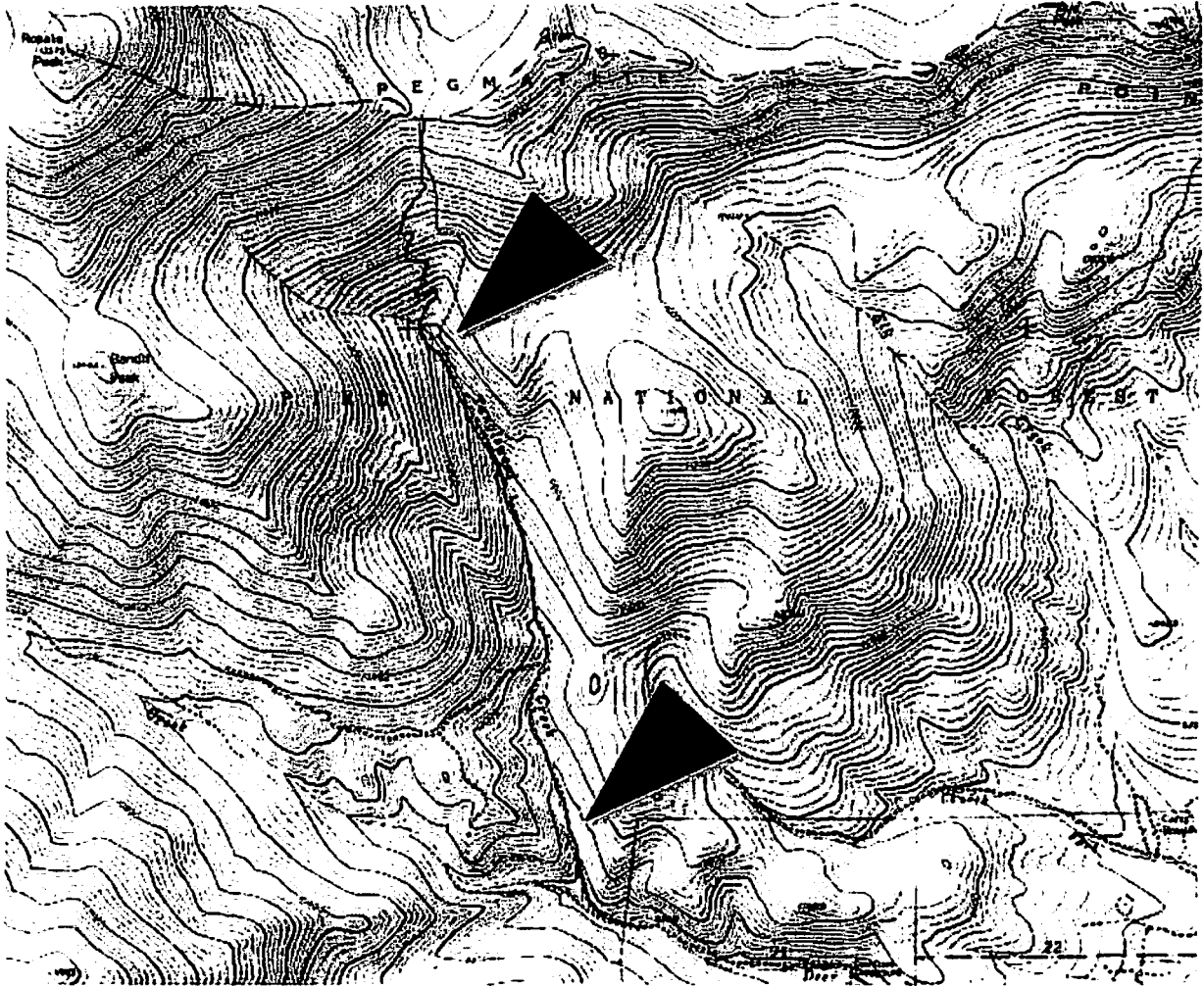
#### **Narrative:**

From the Deer Creek Trailhead, the Tanglewood and Rosalie Trails go west and north up the Tanglewood Creek drainage to a junction just outside the Wilderness boundary. Here the two trails split and the Rosalie Trail bears left up an old logging road, while the Tanglewood Trail continues north along Tanglewood Creek. The trail climbs along Tanglewood Creek, and then begins to ascend toward the saddle above. The trail becomes more steep and strenuous, particularly after leaving the trees. The top of the saddle marks the boundary between Pike and Arapaho National Forests. Rosalie Peak will be visible immediately to the west and the Pegmatite Points will be visible along the ridge in an easterly direction.

At the saddle the trail becomes the Roosevelt Lakes Trail and begins to descend gradually across open tundra to Roosevelt Lakes (elevation 11,742'). From the lakes the trail continues north to the Beartrack Lakes Trail and points beyond in the Arapaho National Forest.

Tanglewood Trail Elevation Profile





*This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The Pike National Forest strongly suggests purchasing a topographic trail map and compass prior to beginning a hiking trip.*



## 19 - Bierstadt Trail #711

### South Platte Ranger District

#### Access

Guanella Pass (11,670 ft. elevation) - A generally crowded trailhead at the summit of Guanella Pass, it accesses the Mt. Bierstadt Trail, Rosalie Trail, and South Park/Squaretop Lakes Trail.

- 1) Drive west from Denver on US 285 approximately 40 miles to Grant. Turn right (north) on to Park County 62. Drive 13.5 miles to Guanella Pass.
- 2) Drive west from Denver on Interstate 70. Exit at Georgetown and follow the signs 11.5 miles from Georgetown to Guanella Pass.

Connecting Trails: 15 - Rosalie Trail, South Park Trail

#### Trail Information

Mount Bierstadt was named for Albert Bierstadt, a well-known painter of landscapes of the American west in the latter half of the 1800's. He named the neighboring 14,000 foot peak for his wife, Rosalie, but it was later renamed Mount Evans in 1870, for Colorado's second territorial governor, John Evans, and a nearby 13,575 foot summit was named Mount Rosalie. Special protection for the Bierstadt area began 1/11/1956 with the designation of the approximately 5,880 acre Abyss Lake Scenic Area. This was followed by the creation of the 74,400 acre Mount Evans Wilderness under the Colorado Wilderness Act of 12/22/1980.

Because this trail is entirely above treeline, you should be alert to the likely development of summer afternoon storms with their accompanying lightening. This trail is rated difficult because of the altitude and elevation gain. Take time to acclimate if coming from low altitude. Be aware that the weather may go rapidly from hot and sunny to cold and snowy, so prepare accordingly. Please respect the sensitive alpine environment and do not step off the trail.

#### Description

From the parking areas, the trail descends gently toward Scott Gomer Creek. This first part of the trail passes through a prime example of willow carr (a wetland willow thicket), providing prime White-tailed Ptarmigan habitat. Damage to the willow carr by large numbers of peakbaggers winding their way through the willows, trying to keep their feet dry, and the erosion problems higher on the mountain, was what spurred the decision to create a single, sustainable trail to the summit. After much debate over Wilderness values vs. resource damage, it was decided to construct the raised boardwalk, which allows the natural flow of water through the area and the recovery of vegetation along the route. At 11,470 feet, the trail crosses Scott Gomer Creek and begins its ascent toward the summit. From the creek the trail climbs gradually up through the willows, then up onto the broad northwest shoulder. Nearing the summit, the trail grows steeper and less well defined on the rocky ridge. Pick your route to stay on the rocks and avoid the vegetation growing in the pockets in between.

#### Special Consideration

Because the trail is almost entirely in designated wilderness, Wilderness regulations apply. Of particular importance on this trail are:

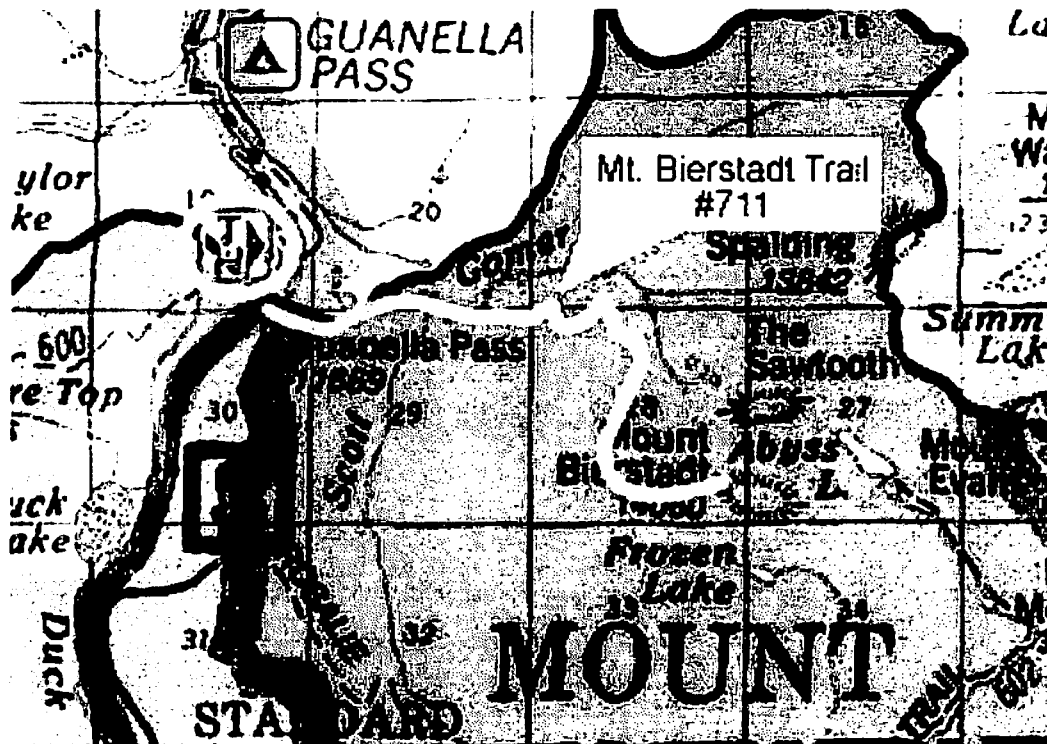
- Group size is limited to no more than 15 members.
- No bicycles are permitted within Wilderness.
- Do not shortcut switchbacks.

The alpine tundra cannot withstand repeated trampling by hikers. Once gone, the vegetation will take decades to return, even if the area is closed to further use. A great deal of work has been done in recent years by the Colorado Fourteeners Initiative in partnership with the Forest Service to build a sustainable trail and restore badly eroded areas on the original route.

- Dogs must be leashed.

The area around the around Guanella Pass is prime White-tailed Ptarmigan habitat and loose dogs cause disturbance in this and other communities. Also, dogs must be kept leashed to avoid conflicts with the large number of other hikers visiting the peak. It is recommended not to bring dogs at all.





*This map is intended for use as a general guide only, not for actual land navigation. The Pike National Forest strongly suggests purchasing a topographic trail map and compass prior to beginning a hiking trip.*

## ***PACK IT IN—PACK IT OUT LEAVE NO TRACE***



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